

IN THE CLAIMS

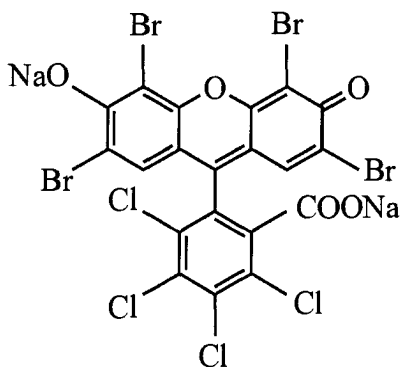
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

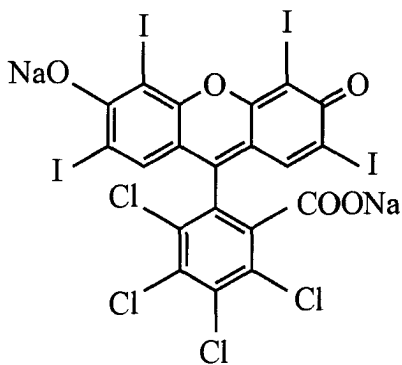
Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method for assaying albumin in urine by using a protein assay indicator,

wherein a compound having a chemical structure expressed by one of the following Chemical Formulas (1)-1 and (1)-2 is used as the protein assay indicator:



(1)-1



(1)-2

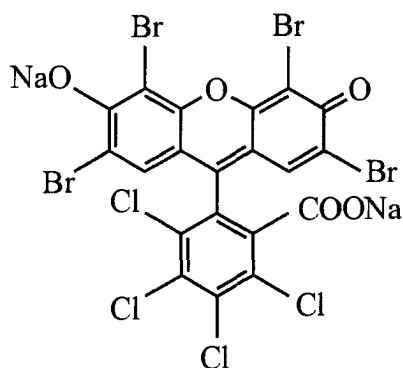
2.-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the protein indicator is from colorless to light orange in color when no protein is present at a pH equal to or below the pKa of said protein indicator, but is from red to purple in color when a protein is present.

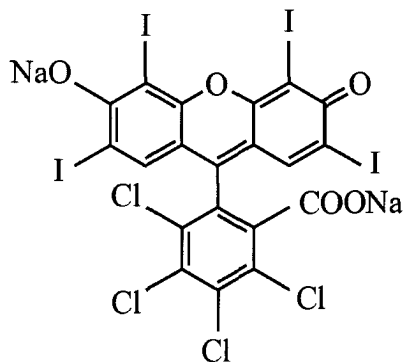
6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein albumin concentration is measured for an albumin-containing sample whose albumin concentration is between 10 and 20 mg/dL.

8. (currently amended) A protein assay indicator for assaying albumin in ~~urea~~ urine, said indicator having a chemical structure expressed by one of the following Chemical Formulas (2)-1 and (2)-2:



(2)-1

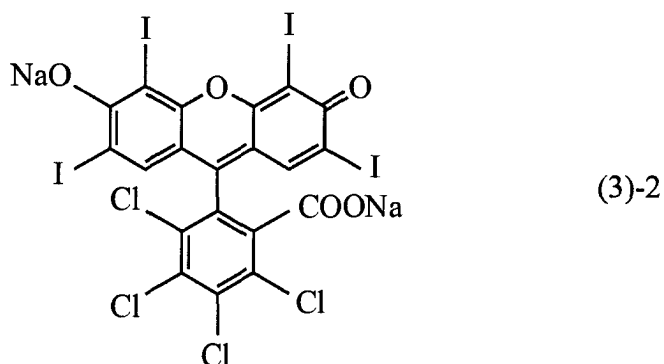
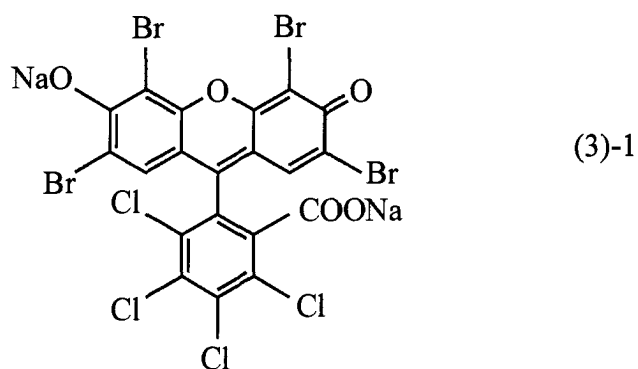


(2)-2

9.-11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The protein assay indicator according to claim 8, wherein the indicator is from colorless to light orange in color when no protein is present at a pH equal to or below the pKa, but is from red to purple in color when a protein is present.

13. (previously presented) A test piece used for quantifying or semi-quantifying albumin in urine, wherein a compound having a chemical structure expressed by one of the following Chemical Formulas (3)-1 and (3)-2 is used as a protein assay indicator:



14.-16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented) The test piece according to claim 13, wherein the protein indicator is from colorless to light orange in color when no protein is present at a pH equal to or below the pKa of said protein indicator, but is from red to purple in color when a protein is present.

18. (previously presented) The test piece according to claim 13, further containing a sensitizer for increasing the coloration sensitivity with respect to the protein.

19. (previously presented) The test piece according to claim 18, containing one of polyethylene glycol and polypropylene glycol as the sensitizer.